

**REMARKS**

The specification has been amended. Claims 1, 8, 10 - 12, 21, 24, and 28 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced with these amendments, all of which are supported in the specification as originally filed. Claims 3 and 25 have been cancelled from the application without prejudice. Claims 1 - 2, 4 - 24, and 26 - 28 remain in the application.

**I. Objections to the Claims**

Paragraph 3 of the Office Action dated February 23, 2005 (hereinafter, "the Office Action") states that Claim 11 is objected to because of improper dependency. Appropriate correction has been made herein, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this objection.

**II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101**

Paragraph 4 of the Office Action states that Claims 21 - 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In particular, similarities between independent Claims 21 and 24 are considered problematic. Independent Claim 21 has been amended to more clearly distinguish its limitations from those of independent Claim 24. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that their claims are directed toward statutory subject matter, and respectfully request that the §101 rejection be withdrawn.

**III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102**

Paragraph 6 of the Office Action states that Claims 1 - 7, 11 - 16, and 19 - 28 are rejected

under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,761,380 to Lewis et al. Claims 3 and 25 have been cancelled from the application without prejudice. This rejection is respectfully traversed with regard to the remaining claims.

Applicants have amended their independent Claims 1, 21, 24, and 28 to more clearly specify limitations of their invention, and respectfully submit that Lewis does not teach or suggest limitations of these independent claims. In particular, Lewis does not teach or suggest "a status-to-weight mapping ..." or "a parameter-to-routine mapping ...", both of which are specified as limitations of Applicants' independent claims (see, for example, Claim 1, lines 3 - 5 and 8 - 9). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that their independent Claims 1, 21, 24, and 28 are patentable over Lewis. Dependent Claims 2, 4 - 7, 11 - 16, 19 - 20, 22 - 23, and 26 - 27 are therefore deemed patentable over the reference as well, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the §102 rejection.

#### IV. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Paragraph 8 of the Office Action states that Claims 8 - 10 and 17 - 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lewis in view of U. S. Patent 6,662,163 to Albayrak et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

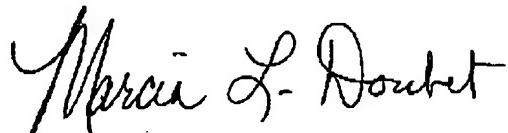
As discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that Lewis fails to teach limitations of their independent claims. Accordingly, dependent Claims 8 - 10 and 17 - 18 cannot be rendered obvious by combining Lewis with Albayrak. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to

withdraw the §103 rejection.

V. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejected claims, withdrawal of all presently outstanding objections and rejections, and allowance of all remaining claims at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,



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